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# What the Research and Information Collection Partnership Means to the Water Research Foundation

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advancing the science of water

# History of RICP

- WaterRF and EPA Signed a Memorandum of Understanding in January 2009
- Follow-up to the RTCR/DS Advisory Committee recommendations regarding distribution-system oriented research
- “Priorities Document” completed in April, 2010

# Distribution Systems, Generally

- Complex, and relatively new area of focus for public health protection research
- Concern about deteriorating assets, infrastructure funding gap, water quality
  - EPA estimate of re-investment need- **\$338 billion** over 20 years
  - AWWA estimate of re-investment need - **\$1.7 trillion** by 2050
  - Make informed choices for capital re-investment and operational changes

# RTCR/DS Advisory Committee Identified Seven Areas of RICP Work

- Cross connections and backflow of contaminated water
- Contamination due to storage facility design, operation or maintenance
- Contamination due to main installation, repair or rehabilitation practices
- Contaminant intrusion due to pressure conditions and physical gaps in distribution system infrastructure
- Significance and control of biofilm and microbial growth
- Nitrification issues that lead to public health effects
- Accumulation and release of contaminants from distribution system scales and sediments

# Advancing Distribution System Knowledge, Practice

- Seven RICP areas of research are areas of concern for our subscribers
- High subscriber interest in lead and copper concerns
- High subscriber interest in distribution system renewal approaches
- Continuing interest in improved distribution system operations - Partnership for Safe Water

# RICP, Distribution Systems and Water Research Foundation

- These areas of work are, and will continue to be, priority areas for
  - Research
  - Knowledge synthesis
  - Research work in these areas dates back to 1986 for WaterRF
- Sustainability of the distribution system can be advanced by increased integration of these areas of work



# Thank You! Questions?

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